

CONNECTICUT SUPREME COURT

Justice								
Confidence Score	Indeterminate, Senior Status	Indeterminate	Mild Democrat	Mild Democrat	Mild Democrat	Strong Democrat	Mild Democrat	N/A
Opinion Partners								
Dissenting Minority								
Determining Majority								
Lone Dissenter								

SUMMARY

- ▶ Number of justices: **8**
- ▶ Number of cases: **43**
- ▶ Percentage of cases with a unanimous ruling: **90.7% (39)**
- ▶ Justice most often writing the majority opinion: **Justice D'Auria (10)**
- ▶ Per curiam decisions: **3**
- ▶ Concurring opinions: **4**
- ▶ Dissenting opinions: **4**

COURT CONTENTION

Opinion partners

In 2020, there were no opinion partners in cases decided by the Connecticut Supreme Court.

Dissenting minority

In 2020, the Connecticut Supreme Court decided one case by split decision. In that case, Justices Kahn, McDonald, and Mullins were in the minority. In our Ballotpedia Courts: State Partisanship study, Justices Kahn and Mullins recorded

⁹ Christine S. Vertefeuille was a justice on the seven-member Connecticut Supreme Court. She was appointed to the court by Governor John G. Rowland on January 3, 2000. Her term was renewed in November of 2008, but she retired and assumed senior status on June 1, 2010. Senior judges are Article III judges who, having met eligibility through age and service requirements, continue to serve on federal courts while hearing a reduced number of cases.

Mild Democratic Confidence Scores, and Justice McDonald recorded a Strong Democratic Confidence Score.

Determining majority

In the case decided by split decision, Justices D'Auria, Ecker, Palmer, and Robinson were in the majority. In our *Ballotpedia Courts: State Partisanship* study, Justices D'Auria and Ecker recorded Mild Democratic Confidence Scores, Justice Robinson recorded an Indeterminate Confidence Score, and Justice Palmer was not on the court when we conducted our study, so he did not receive a score.

Lone dissenter

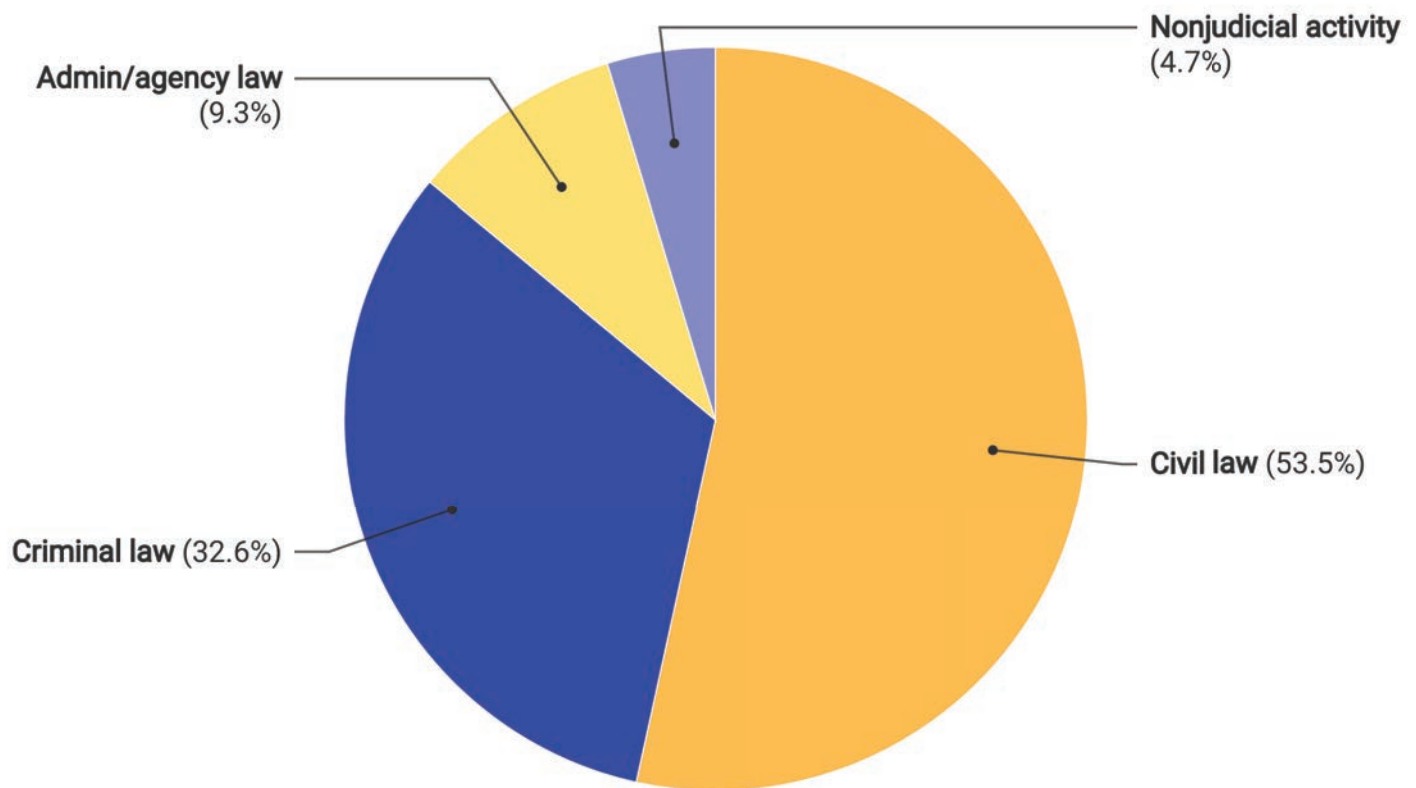
In 2020 there were no cases containing a lone dissent.

COURT JURISDICTION

The supreme court generally has appellate jurisdiction over cases decided in lower courts within Connecticut, including cases decided by the appellate court.

The court has mandatory jurisdiction over the following types of cases: civil appeals, capital criminal appeals, criminal appeals, and judicial discipline matters. The court has discretionary jurisdiction over civil appeals, non-capital criminal appeals, and administrative agency cases.

Case types decided by Connecticut Supreme Court, 2020



BALLOTPEDIA

The most common cases heard by the Connecticut Supreme Court in 2020 were civil cases. Of the 43 cases it heard, 23 were civil cases, or 53.5 percent of its total caseload for the year. A civil case is one that involves a dispute between two parties, one of whom seeks reparations or damages.

The second most common cases that reached the supreme court were criminal law cases. A criminal case involves a final criminal appeal before the court of last resort. The Connecticut Supreme Court heard 14 criminal law cases in 2020, or 32.6 percent of its total caseload for the year.

The third most common cases that reached the court were administrative law cases. An administrative law case first proceeds from an administrative law court or involves the enforcement of an administrative regulation. The Connecticut Supreme Court heard four administrative law cases in 2020, or 9.3 percent of its total caseload for the year.